

For the most up to date information throughout the coming days please continue to monitor [www.whitehouse.gov/HaitiEarthquake](http://www.whitehouse.gov/HaitiEarthquake) or [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov).

A top priority is accounting for the thousands of American citizens who are currently in Haiti. Families of Americans living in Haiti who are trying to find the status of their loved ones are encouraged to contact the State Department at **1-888-407-4747**. This line is experiencing a high volume of calls at this time, so we ask for your continued patience.

Cash donations are the most efficient and effective way to help the relief effort in Haiti right now. They allow humanitarian organizations to purchase (often within the affected region itself) the exact type and quantity of items needed by those affected by the crisis. Read about the [advantages of monetary donations here](#). You can immediately donate to the Red Cross to assist the relief effort. [Contribute online to the Red Cross](#), or donate \$10 to be charged to your cell phone bill by texting "HAITI" to "90999." You can also find more ways to help through the [Center for International Disaster Information](#), or through [USAID's interactive website](#), which has a list of NGOs and instructions on how to help: <http://www.usaid.gov>.

Right now, the airport is being used to facilitate search and rescue efforts. This is a complex and difficult environment, and all of our efforts have to be focused on prioritizing and moving the right resources into Haiti that can save lives in the next 48 hours. That is why we are encouraging private citizens to focus their efforts on supporting established aid organizations that are deploying resources to Haiti, and to hold off on travelling there themselves.

Thank you for your cooperation. We will continue to update this information as it comes.